

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 FRB-03 AGRE-00 CU-02 BIB-01
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R 201733Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4983

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 07031

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: EGEN, EALR, CSCE, PFOR, NATO, XX, ECE, XH
SUBJECT: ECONADS: FUTURE WORK PROGRAM

REFS (A) STATE 168470; (B)STATE 163161

SUMMARY: AT JULY 20 ECONADS, COMMITTEE AGREED ON WORK
PROGRAM. SCHEDULE FOR EXPERTS MEETINGS PROPOSED
BY US (REF B) WAS ACCEPTED WITH SEVERAL SUGGESTED
CHANGES. DIRECTORATE WILL ISSUE REVISED SCHEDULE.
FRENCH RECOMMENDED THAT EXPERTS MEETINGS BE RESTRICTED
TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE
AS INDICATED BELOW. END SUMMARY

1. AT JULY 20 ECONADS MEETING, MOST
REPS AGREED THAT CSCE EXPERTS MEETING SHOULD BE
SCHEDULED IN FIRST HALF OF SEPTEMBER. ITALIAN
(GRICCIOLI) AND CANADIAN (LUNN), HOWEVER, REITERATED
THEIR PREFERENCES FOR A LATER DATE.

2. CHAIRMAN BILLY NOTED THAT POLITICAL COMMITTEE
MIGHT SCHEDULE CSCE EXPERTS MEETING IN EARLY
SEPTEMBER AND SUGGESTED THAT ECONADS SCHEDULE ITS
MEETING ON THE DAY BEFORE THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE'S
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EXPERT MEETING. ONCE POLITICAL COMMITTEE FIXES THE DATE
FOR ITS MEETING, BILLY WILL SUGGEST SPECIFIC DATE
FOR ECONADS EXPERT MEETING.

3. FRENCH REP (MATHONNET) REHEARSED FRENCH VIEW THAT
CSCE EXPERTS MEETING SHOULD NOT STRIVE TO COORDINATE
ALLIED POSITIONS, BUT MERELY EXCHANGE INFORMATION.

4. ECONADS AGREED TO SCHEDULE BACK-TO-BACK MEETINGS ON SOV/EE ENERGY AND SOVIET ECONOMY ON OCTOBER 26-28. SESSION ON OCTOBER 26 WOULD BEGIN IN THE AFTERNOON. FIRST TWO HALF DAYS WOULD BE DEVOTED TO ENERGY TOPIC.

5. DECEMBER MEETING ON SOVIET MERCHANT SHIPPING WAS SCHEDULED ON DECEMBER 15-16. COMMITTEE PREFERRED TO HOLD THIS MEETING AFTER MINISTERIAL.

6. EXCEPT FOR COLLOQUIUM (SEPTEL) NO SPECIFIC DATES WERE PUT FORWARD FOR 1978 MEETINGS. THEIR SCHEDULING WILL BE TAKEN UP IN SEPTEMBER AFTER SUMMER RECESS.

7. FRENCH REP SUGGESTED THAT BECAUSE OF PERTINENCE OF SOVIET BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (BOP) TO E-W STUDY, THIS TOPIC SHOULD BE MOVED FORWARD TO FEBRUARY, US REP POINTED OUT THAT US SUGGESTED APRIL MEETING IN ORDER TO COMPLETE PAPER THAT COULD SERVE AS US CONTRIBUTION. AS COMPROMISE, UK REP (POWLES) SUGGESTED SWITCHING DISCUSSION OF EFFECTS OF INFLATION ON ALLIED DEFENSE EXPENDITURES TO APRIL, AND DISCUSSION OF SOVIET BOP TO MARCH. (COMMENT: IF OER PAPER OR DRAFT IS READY IN MARCH, IT MAY BE FEASIBLE TO SCHEDULE SOVIET BOP TOPIC IN LATE MARCH. SUCH A CHANGE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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SCHEDULING WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO FRENCH. END COMMENT)

8. FRENCH REP ALSO COMMENTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES DID NOT THINK IT ADVISABLE TO INVITE PERSONS FROM PRIVATE SECTOR (I.E. BANKERS) TO SOVIET BOP EXPERTS MEETING. ONLY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SHOULD PARTICIPATE. FRENCH AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT NON-GOVERNMENT PEOPLE SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE COLLOQUIUM. (COMMENT: AFTER MEETING, UK REP SAID THAT PERSONALLY HE DOUBTED WHETHER HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD CONSIDER THE SOVIET BOP MEETING WORTHWHILE WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE BANKERS, AND INTENDED TO REQUEST LONDON'S GUIDANCE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S VIEWS. END COMMENT.)

9. TO FACILITATE ATTENDANCE AT AMY REVIEW OF THE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE OF EE COUNTRIES BY BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICERS IN EASTERN EUROPE, UK REP SUGGESTED THAT MEETING HAVE TWO DISTINCT, BUT CONSECUTIVE, PARTS. FIRST WOULD CONSIDER POLAND/GDR CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND SECOND, ROMANIA/BULGARIA/HUNGARY. (COMMENT: WE SEE NO PROBLEM WITH THIS

PROPOSAL. US OBJECTIVES OF SCHEDULING
ONE MEETING FOR EE ECONOMIES WOULD BE PRESERVED.
END COMMENT).

10. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE FOR SEPTEMBER
1 ECONADS REGARDING: (1) ACCEPTABILITY OF SCHEDULING CSCE
EXPERTS MEETING DAY BEFORE POSSIBLE SPECIAL
POLADS MEETING (SEE SEPTTEL) (2) CONFIRMATION
THAT OCTOBER 26-28 DATES FOR SOV/EE ENERGY AND SOVIET
ECONOMY ARE AGREEABLE. (3) CONCURRENCE IN DECEMBER
15-16 DATES FOR SOVIET MERCHANT SHIPPING MEETING.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 07031

(4) ACCEPTABILITY OF HOLDING SOVIET BOP MEETING
IN MARCH AND EFFECTS OF INFLATION ON ALLIED DEFENSE
EXPENDITURES MEETING IN APRIL. (5) U.S. POSITION
ON INVITING NON-GOVERNMENT PERSONS TO SOVIET BOP
AND OTHER EXPERTS MEETINGS IN VIEW OF FRENCH SUGGESTION
TO EXCLUDE THEM. (6) CONCURRENCE IN DIVIDING MEETING
ON EE ECONOMIES INTO TWO PARTS. BENNETT

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